

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert the following paragraph beginning at page 1, line 4:

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY

This application is the US National Phase of International Application PCT/GB99/03377 filed 11 October 1999 which designated the US and claims benefit of GB 9822626.9 filed 17 October 1998, the entire contents of which are incorporated by reference.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 28, as follows:

~~It is an object of the invention to provide a~~ A verification method and a method of marking goods for verification purposes are disclosed herein that mitigates at least some of the aforesaid problems.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 1, as follows:

~~According to the present invention there is provided a~~ A method of verifying the authenticity of goods is disclosed, wherein a set of public data and a security code are applied to the goods, said security code having been derived by means of a predetermined encryption algorithm from said public data applied to the goods and a plurality of private data sets held by a verifier and, upon receiving a request for verification, each private data set is entered into said predetermined encryption algorithm together with the public data applied to the goods to generate a list of verification codes, and said list of verification codes is compared with the security code applied to the goods to assess the authenticity of goods.

Please insert the following heading beginning at page 3, after line 21:

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

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Please insert the following heading beginning at page 4, after line 1:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION